

The letter is most clumsily composed by a 3^d rate man + certainly to compromise me here in this country, + I am sorry to say this crime till now, has succeeded —

It is so stupidly done, that I can only wonder that any sane + honest man can take it seriously —

I look upon this, what my first impression was, as a common police trap, + it is confirmed by the following statements which I enclose, it is a written statement by my wife —

All suspicions which I cast last evening on Humphreys abroad, I gave up altogether, + came to the following conclusion —

Mr. Hankinson, who felt himself very much hurt, because after knowing him better, he refused to receive him in my house + at his last visit personally stated that he has a friend in Scotland Yard who is a Unitarian

II

Once I received a letter signed a "hell
nisher" written on a "Liberal Club" paper,
in which I was abused in the most criminal
way - a ^{young} Hungarian ^{artist} who was detained here &
later interned (cannot remember his name)
his wife & child departed - this man lived
with Hankinson; he constantly tried to
come to me - I saw him once in my studio,
stayed in the lounge of my house, as he
wanted me to see drawings of his -
I did not like the man, because he -
expressed very extreme socialistic views.
He was jealous of Mr. de Werness, because
~~I made~~ he became a friend of mine.
So it happened that as I did not like
both these men, I did not want to
receive them - at the last visit
the Hungarian asked me, if I had re-
ceived a "threatening letter", by which
he gave the show away & confirmed my
first impression, that it came from
Hankinson. I told him I sent the letter
to Scotland Yard - He became visibly
serious after this.

The next thing was, when he was at
Datchet, I received a letter from Hankinson

asking me again to support a Hungarian
 destitute woman - I refused to do so, as
 I already had helped this woman, at
 his very request. In this letter was
 enclosed a printed pamphlet by an
 Unitarian clergyman - a pacifist
 paper - It expressed very strong
 views - I was astonished why he sent
 me this pamphlet without any remark,
 & when I refused to help his protegee,
 & at the same time, asked him what
 he meant by the enclosed pamphlet.

To this I received no reply - when
 shortly afterwards the police, ~~collecting~~
 taking away my correspondence, took
 away this pamphlet. At one of my
 examinations under Mr. Basil Thomson
 I observed this pamphlet on the table
 & at once gave him an explanation
 how it came to me - He put it aside &
 made no remark - I am sure this
 pamphlet on thinking over it now, was
 meant as a trap for Scotland Yard
 to hear my views -

Hawkism showed himself very hostile,
 & had ample opportunity to hear about

41. It is criminal how our Dutch friends & the
ministers ^{also} are implicated in this letter

my career through the Hungarian who lived
with him - Mr. de Nervo, my friend, who
lived with Haukeison & was obliged to leave
him, as he became so hostile towards
him, since we made a friend of him (Nervo)
& refused to receive Haukeison & his
other Hungarian proteges.

As a native Hungarian, I can state
that the letter was of a very low
character, spiteful & an extreme
socialist -

I have come to the conclusion that the
letter, was fabricated with the help
of Haukeison, to whom I am sure I
stated, I get letters from my people
through ~~through~~ my Dutch friends -
I cannot see it otherwise.

London

1919. June 12.

Josef Lajlo
P. de Laszlo

3 August 1917

5^a

Re De Laszlo

Mr De Laszlo's
Memoranda as
to letter 14th ~~July~~
June 1917

CRB

Mr De Raszlo

Letter of 14th June 1917 produced by Treasury and Mr
De Raszlo's Comments thereon

a Letter 14 June 1917

[Take in A to H
from letter 14th June 1917

Mr De Raszlo's Comments

[Take in opening sentence of
letter to Sir Charles followed
by paragraph A to H
opposite A to H on left
hand side.

[Follow by Rider xx]

5184

Dear Mr Charles.

After reading through this incriminating letter, I am more than ever convinced, than the first impression which I received when this letter was read to me by Basil Thomson, that it is a very clumsy one made up at Scotland Yard, & as long as they are not going to convince me by facts of the contrary, I stick to my assertion. I will try to justify my assertions as follows:

A. At the beginning of the letter he says that he thanks for my letter of May 30th 1917. As you know I had no opportunity to send letters abroad through the Dutch Legation, except from the end of 1915 till Aug: 31 1916. After that all letters went by open post, as well as those before the end of 1915.

B. In group point II: the very word "Monarchy" is entirely an English expression -
An Austria Subject would say "for Austria Hungary"; a Hungarian Subject would say only "for Hungary" — with this letter

III

It never occurred to me to think of German prisoners in France, & what interest have I at all as a native Hungarian, towards German prisoners, the more so, as I officially expressed my disapproval of the Lusitania outrage & Luwain in '15 at the Maurian House -

How little interest the Hungarians showed towards Austria & Germany, than the Hungarians were the first to declare themselves an independent Republic, & declare themselves free from Germany.

During the war no British Subject has been molested in Hungary. Let them produce any member prison to whom I related of German prisoners in France.

IV

D

I never note on the situation a single word, for any person whatever, & it is ridiculous in his statement, that he says he received a report "of yesterday" in Switzerland!

of Britain

V + and Mrs. + Mrs. Grenadians - I visited them once
shortly before the war in connection with my journey in
March to Athens - when invited to paint the Royal
family.
I don't think she is a Jewess.

Since the 12 years I live in ^{Paris} England, I
never visited any Embassy in London, except
a few times the Austro-Hungarian, where
there was no Ambassador's wife -

E I don't know any Ambassador's wife beginning
with the letter G - except the former
Soubian Minister's wife, Madame de
Grenitch. + so far as I remember, she
came only once to my studio, either
just before, or in the beginning of the war,
when I understood her to be American
by birth, + she wanted to write an article
on my 'Art for America'. I have never
seen her again, + never visited them in
her house. I never don't know where they
lived - nor have I ~~recently~~ noticed that
she is a Jewess. 1914. early series

VI. F As I already have stated I had no
opportunities to send letters uncensored,
only the short time between 15 + 16
+ every letter which I have sent was
sent open, which Mrs. ^{Reinhardt} Read, before
she addressed them further.

VII

I never had any conversation with anyone about the King's ideas in this regard, nor do I know them, nor had I any conversation on Elzari-Lucine, nor have I ever written a word on that subject.

to anybody,

VIII

I never wrote to anyone that I want to recover my Hungarian nationality, & how ridiculous it is & contradictory, since he mentions at the end of the letter that "his life was made impossible for him in Hungary" - If that is the case, why should I want to recover my Hungarian nationality?

Children could
spend the evening

IX

It appears to me ridiculous, that the writer gives an explanation to my native country of my origin & career, as if I would be a stranger towards them - They know quite well my Genealogy, & the steps of my career.

H

X

"Shortly afterwards" - Between painting the Pope & the German (over)

Suspension, 8 1/2 years lapses.

Geneva, June 14, 1917.

Monsieur Ph. A. Laszlo
Palace Gate 3,
Londres.

A Dear Friend, your kind letter of May 30 reached me, as well as your most interesting information. Many thanks for your friendly attentions. Where are the days when we were both bursting with youth? But now for serious matters.]

I forwarded to the Legation your request to be allowed to resume your Hungarian Nationality. I have no doubt but that it will be granted; you have rendered such important services to the Monarchy that you have earned a favour of this kind. B

C With this letter you will receive documents relating to the treatment of German prisoners in France. Do what is necessary to make the revolting facts known in Society, at Court, and in intellectual circles.

Your report of yesterday confirms what I have said of you for a long time. You have in you the stuff of which diplomats, clever business men, and journalists are made. The Report is of the highest importance, and gives a splendid picture of the true situation in England. D

I have only one thing to ask you. Don't mention Madame G in your letters any more.

E There is a highly placed personage who cannot forgive her for being the wife of an Ambassador, seeing that she was only a Jewess. Call on her frequently; what you get from her also is worth having.

F
I have just received, through our "Dutch friend", the attached Report drawn out by L. (A.O.) The Report is extremely valuable; in particular, it gives the exact dates of the losses of ships belonging to Great Britain, figures and statistics relative to the critical condition of the mining industry, and a true idea of the views held at Court.

L. attached to his Report a few lines for me. He begs me to ask the Authorities whether he cannot recover his Hungarian Nationality after the War. Please answer to me, as to this, and I will send it on to him.

G
I am contenting myself today with telling him that I will look after him, and with expressing my personal opinion that his request cannot but meet with a favourable reception, in view of the great services which he rendered us last year.

X
May I add, to give you the true perspective, that L. has already sent in nearly 40 Reports, which money will

River X X.

Note

In the original translation supplied
by Mr. Dranson to Mr. C. F. Gill K.C.
the following paragraph appeared. This
paragraph is not included in the
translation annexed to the particulars
of charges.

" If it is true and the authenticity
" of L's information cannot be doubted
" that the King is visibly and increasingly
" desirous of seeing the war at an
" end and that he has said
" apparently that Alcee Lorraine
" was not worth an hour's prolongation
" of the war peace cannot be
" far off now "

Mr. de Laszlo comments as
follows

" I never had any conversation
" with any one about the King's
" ideas in this war nor do I
" know them nor had I any
" conversation on Alcee Lorraine
" nor have I ever written a
" word on that subject to
" anybody "

[Take in from X to X from
letter to Sir Charles]

~~3 Copies~~
CR

59

re De Laszlo

69

Letter 11th June 1917
+ Mr. De Laszlo's comments
paragraph by paragraph

Duplicates

CR